GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:465
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2007
NEW POLICY FOR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES
Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Empowered Group of Ministers has examined the issue of Special Economic Zones(SEZs) recently; and

(b) if so, the details of the salient features thereof alongwith the date on which the new policy is likely to come into effect?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

a): Yes, Sir.

b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.465 FOR ANSWER ON 8TH MAY, 2007 REGARDING "NEW POLICY FOR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES" (b): Various issues concerning the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) policy including acquisition of land have been considered by the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) and the following decisions, applicable with immediate effect, were taken at the meeting of EGOM held on 5th April, 2007.:-

(1) In respect of formally approved SEZs, notifications may be issued on completion of verification procedures.

(2) The pending applications for SEZs may be processed for in principle & formal approvals and notifications subject to the condition that the State Governments would not undertake any compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs.

(3) Upper limit of the area required for multi product SEZs to be fixed at 5000 hectares. However, State Governments may prescribe a lower limit.

(4) The minimum processing area limit be fixed uniformly at 50% for multi product SEZs as well as sector specific SEZs.

(5) Ministry of Rural Development be requested to reformulate a comprehensive Land Acquisition Act to address all relevant issues and to work out a comprehensive Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy ensuring livelihood from the project to at least one person from each displaced family.